To Members of the California State Senate:

This bill would require the Department of Transportation (Department) to implement various recommendations of its 2001 California Blueprint for Bicycling and Walking, including use of a new or existing task force or working group to make recommendations on state and local policy that would enhance walking and bicycling in California. The bill would also require the Department to establish, maintain, and periodically update, a policy to ensure full consideration of the needs of non-motorized travelers in all activities of the Department, and would require that it include in an existing annual report, updates on its progress in implementing this policy.

When I signed the Executive Order in February of 2004 creating the California Performance Review (CPR), its mission was to make fundamental changes in state government, establish new procedures to create greater efficiencies, prioritize government functions, create true accountability over the fiscal management of state resources. CPR reviews government functions at all levels when there is interaction with state government.

While I support efforts to promote increased walking and bicycling, both of which are important for improving physical fitness, I believe that this measure would impose unnecessary legislative requirements. However, although vetoing this measure I am instructing the Director of Transportation to ensure that the Department continues to implement its policy of fully considering the needs of all transportation system users, including non-motorized users, in all its operations.

For these reasons I am returning SB 1381 without my signature.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger